



EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE SPACE SECTOR, “EMPOWERING THE COSMOS: WOMEN'S DYNAMIC ROLE IN SHAPING THE SPACE SECTOR AND THE CONTRIBUTION OF EDUCATION AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAMMES”

IX SESSION - 6 DECEMBER 11:00-12:30 CET

Programme 6 December 2023 (moderated discussion with participating partners):

- Introduction and moderation by Margarita Chrysaki, NEREUS Communication & Project officer (5 min);
- The role of university and its training programmes in encouraging women to work in space, presentation by Sarah Baatout, Deputy Institute Director of Nuclear Medical Applications @ SCK CEN (10 min);
- About the Space4Women Mentorship Programme, presentation by Veronica Cesco, Associate Programme Officer, United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (10 min);
- Intervention by Christine Leurquin, Senior Expert in Satellite Communications Strategy and European Institutions;
- Testimonials by space women in leadership: Rozenn Marechal-Brittany region (15 min);
- Testimonials by two mentees (Danai Bournou, Natalia Skripnikova) and Maddalena Tobio (Veneto region) (5 min);
- Moderated discussion (15 min)
- Discussion & QnA

This 9th infosession explores how women can play a significant role in the space sector thanks to recent education and mentorship initiatives. Moreover, space women from the public sector in regions, and international/EU organisations will share with us their experiences, challenges, and successful tips on how they managed to work in high level positions in the space sector.

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE SPACE SECTOR, NEW TRENDS, PARTNERSHIPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Objectives:

The webinars have the overall objective to bring together the university community and partners of the network interested in education/training, capacity-building, and skills development, creating new opportunities for partnerships and setting the frame for new ways of cooperation to better partner and network associate partners with regional stakeholders, but also to reach out new organisations. The webinar aims at:

- introducing new education players who recently joined the platform and other key stakeholders in the area of education/training;
- enhancing collaboration amongst the universities/research centres present on the platform, but also reaching out to new players outside the network;
- identifying strengths/areas of cooperation;
- presenting major university related-projects and partnerships: a) the Erasmus+ EU education/training initiative, eo4geo, promoting the eo4geo tools and the eo4geo alliance; b) the erasmus+ EU education/training initiative, UNIVERSEH, an alliance of five young and mature universities from five European countries; (please note, in case you wish to present an initiative of your region or organisation to the network community, please contact the secretariat.)
- presenting and discussing new funding opportunities/programs

Target group: Universities/research centres that are NEREUS-Associate members, universities based in NEREUS-member regions, other Universities interested in education/training, cooperation partners, NEREUS-regions that hosted the EO4GEO workshops in the past, and all NEREUS-members interested in the education/training regarding the use of space technologies;

Background:

The role of the education/training sector is crucial for the development of the regional economy and growth. New skills and interdisciplinary knowledge are needed given the numerous challenges such as unemployment, digitalisation, and green transition. The growing role of the space sector can provide solutions to a wide range of regional domains including agriculture, maritime activities, urban planning, air quality, climate adaptation, and sustainable development.

This info session will introduce key education players in the area of space and explore potential partnerships within but also outside the Network. In addition, it will present new education/training trends on the uptake and integration of space/geospatial data and services.

Education/training is also considered a key topic for regional strategies and future needs in space products; considering that experts are needed for the public and private sector at local and regional level, good education opportunities are essential. NEREUS is a European network of regions, currently composed by 24 Member regions and 33 Associate members (including universities) and its role is also to update members and participate in the development of an appropriate educational framework that will support regional growth and development.